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a local trading steamer in one of the ports of Miye Ken, a little north of Osaka; and one in Shidzuoka Ken about half way between Yokohama and Kobe.

No second case has been returned from Nagasaki where one was said to have been met with on the 9th, as already reported to you.

The most capable experts who have been investigating the epidemic in and about Kobe seem convinced that the infection has been present much longer than was at first supposed. In the low district of Kobe, where the disease was earliest detected, there had occurred, nominally from acute pneumonitis, 270 deaths during the months of September and October, and, during the same period and in the same locality, 230 deaths were ascribed to acute meningitis. Beriberi also, which, in its acute form, is marked by heart failure and dyspnoea, figures under the same circumstances as responsible for 266 deaths. Professors Kitasato and Ogata are inclined to suspect that most of these cases were of the pneumonic or other very acute form of plague, which, by the ignorant physicians in attendance on people of the class affected, might easily be mistaken for either of the diseases named.

It is certainly strange that this unusual mortality, especially that ascribed to acute pneumonitis, until within a few years practically unknown in Japan, and even now rare, should not have attracted the attention of the Kobe authorities.

The type of the cases which have been diagnosed as plague by competent men, appears to be most malignant. The patients, in many instances, die before there is time for lymphatic lesions to become evident, and the fatal event often occurs within a few hours of the first attack. I have not, as yet, been able to learn of the recovery of a single well marked case.

While I think that there is, probably, little reason to fear any wide development of the epidemic during the winter months, the persistency with which single cases are occurring farther and farther from the original focus of disease, affords ground for grave uneasiness as to what the spring may bring us.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Sanitary Inspector, Yokohama.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Plague in Manila.

[Cablegram.]

MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, *January 16, 1900.*

Arrived Friday. Five cases of plague now present in Manila.

PERRY, *Passed Assistant Surgeon.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

SPAIN.

Reports from Barcelona.

BARCELONA, SPAIN, *December 30, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit abstract of bills of health issued at this port, and to make the report of the transactions at this place for the week ended December 30, 1899.

On the 26th the steamship *Catalina* was inspected, 21 cabin and 41 steerage passengers were inspected and passed and 49 pieces of baggage were inspected and labeled.

On the 28th the steamship *Martin Saenz*, for the West Indies and Mexico, was inspected, 5 cabin and 3 steerage passengers were inspected and passed and 6 pieces of baggage inspected and labeled. On the 30th the steamship *Portuguese Prince* was inspected and given a supplemental bill of health. She was from Genoa via Marseilles and Barcelona to Cuba and the United States. In view of the statement on the supplemental bill given by the consul at Marseilles that the death rate was double the usual, and that pulmonary diseases were the attributed cause, I subjected the crew to a very close inspection, but found all healthy. The health of Barcelona continues about as usual. I have not been able as yet to get regular reports from the sanitary officials. There are 3 ships to sail from this port for United States Possessions in the next five days.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. ANDERSON,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

BARCELONA, SPAIN, *December 30, 1899.*

SIR: I inclose daily clippings from a local paper giving the number of cases and deaths from the plague at Lisbon and Oporto. I will send them each week hereafter; at present am not able to translate them but hope to do so later, and then will only send the translation.

The following was copied from the bill of health issued by the United States consul at Marseilles, France, to the English steamship *Portuguese Prince* for New Orleans via Barcelona and Havana, and I thought it might be of interest to the Bureau. Official mortality report says: Death rate in Marseilles at present is over double the usual figures, chest affections being largely responsible therefor. Have not been able to obtain regular reports from the sanitary officers here, but hope to soon.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. ANDERSON,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Reports from Barcelona, Bilbao, Corunna, and Vigo.

BARCELONA, SPAIN, *December 29, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor, in obedience to Bureau telegram of December 19, to make the following report of my inspection as regards emigration from the ports of Santander, Bilbao, Corunna, and Vigo: In regard to Santander I respectfully refer to my letter of December 16, in which I reported fully as to that port. I inspected the Spanish trans-Atlantic line steamship *Alfonso XIII*, December 20, from Santander via Corunna to Cuba and Mexico. I inspected and passed 243 steerage and 72 cabin passengers; 1 steerage passenger was rejected as just recovering from smallpox. By my direction the ship's surgeon vaccinated all third-class passengers.

On the 22d I inspected the steamship *France* of the French trans-Atlantic Company, from St. Nazaire to Cuba via Santander and Corunna. I inspected and passed 9 cabin and 50 third-class passengers.

Both these ships are well fitted for carrying passengers; ample air space, ventilators, water-closets, hospital, and bunks. The third class